JPco-fuND Call for Proposals:

”European research projects on neurodegenerative diseases: risk and protective factors, longitudinal cohort approaches and advanced experimental models”

Submission deadline for proposals: 10th March 2015, 23:59h C.E.T.

For further information, please visit us on the web

http://www.jpnd.eu/

or contact the JPND joint call secretariat:

Dr. Constanze Hahn
Constanze.Hahn@dlr.de
(+49) 228-3821 1865

Dr. Thomas Becker
Thomas.Becker@dlr.de
(+49) 228-3821 1686

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION

Neurodegenerative diseases (ND) are debilitating and largely untreatable conditions that are strongly linked with age. In Europe, there are estimated to be between 6.3 and 7.3 million people suffering from Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, the most frequent class of neurodegenerative diseases. This figure is expected to double every 20 years as the European population ages. The total direct and informal care costs of Alzheimer's and related disorders are in the range of €105-160 billion per year across the European Union. Existing treatments for neurodegenerative diseases are limited in effect and mainly address the symptoms rather than the cause. In this context, the 'Joint Programme Neurodegenerative Disease Research' (JPND) has been established in order to better coordinate European efforts on the level of transnational collaboration and project coordination on the basis of the joint European Research Strategy, published in February 2012 (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/strategic-research-agenda/).

With the aim to tackle the leading medical and societal challenges faced by our society, this joint transnational co-funded call (JTC) is launched in partnership with the European Commission (EC) under the ERA-NET Co-fund scheme. Under Horizon 2020, the European Commission (EC) is scaling up the implementation of the JPND research strategy by providing additional funding to 'top up' the funding that is being made available through national/regional funding organisations. The goal of the partners is to maximize the number of high quality transnational scientific projects that can be funded through this call. These projects must demonstrate clear scientific added value from working across national borders.

Three priority areas have been selected as the basis of this call:

- **Genetic, epigenetic and environmental risk and protective factors for neurodegenerative diseases (re-launch of the 2012 JPND 'risk factors' call)**
- **Longitudinal cohort approaches in neurodegenerative diseases**
- **Advanced experimental models of neurodegenerative diseases**

All three topics will benefit from an approach that pools the expertise of several countries. There are some interdependencies between the areas and that is why they are being advertised in a single call.

The funding organisations of the JPND member states that have agreed to fund this call, with a view to adding value to their continuing nationally funded activities in neurodegenerative diseases research, are listed below. The call will be conducted simultaneously by those funding organisations in their respective countries.

- **Austria, Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy**
- **Belgium**
    - **Research Foundation – Flanders**
    - **The Fund for Scientific Research**
- **Canada, Canadian Institutes of Health Research**
- **Denmark, Innovation Fund Denmark**
- **Finland, Academy of Finland**
- **France, French National Research Agency**
- **Germany, Federal Ministry of Education and Research**
- **Israel, Chief Scientist Office, Ministry of Health**
- **Italy**
    - **Ministry of Health**
    - **Ministry of Education, Universities and Research**
- **Luxembourg, National Research Fund**
- **Netherlands, The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development**
- **Norway, The Research Council of Norway**
- **Poland, National Centre for Research and Development**
- **Portugal, Foundation for Science and Technology**
- **Romania, Ministry of National Education**
- **Slovakia, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic**
- **Spain, National Institute of Health Carlos III**
- **Sweden, Swedish Research Council**
- **Turkey, Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey**
- **United Kingdom, Medical Research Council**

Applicants are advised that their respective funding organisation may not necessarily participate in all three areas of the call and therefore they will need to check on national eligibility criteria well before the submission deadline. A table showing national sponsorship is available in Annex I. If there are any uncertainties, applicants should consult their national representative in order to verify their funding organisation's position in relation to eligibility to the three research areas. A list of national contact points is provided in Annex II of this document.

2. AIM OF THE CALL

2.1 Research topics

The call comprises the three topics that are specified below. Proposals may cover more than one of these topics, as long as the relevant work is carried out in a country that will financially support the topic (see Annex I). The aim of this call is to support a limited number of ambitious, innovative, multi-national and multi-disciplinary collaborative research projects that will add value to the respective research areas. The balance of awards between the three topics will be decided by the Peer Review Panel and will depend on the quality of the applications.

Topic 1: Genetic, epigenetic and environmental risk and protective factors of neurodegenerative diseases

It is important to better understand the genetic, epigenetic and environmental factors that underlie an individual's risk and resilience, the triggering events leading to illness, the relationship and interplay between these factors and their relative importance, and the role of potential environmental and behavioural modulators.

Such knowledge will advance the identification of new targets to which second generation pharmacological therapies can be directed and will ultimately help to advance preventive strategies. A pan-European programme is required for comparing different genetic backgrounds using cutting-edge methodology, pooling of existing knowledge and resources, sharing of infrastructure, providing methods for bioinformatics studies, and for establishing the capacity for analysis of high-throughput data.

Research proposals submitted under this area should focus on genetic, epigenetic and environmental factors. Excluded from this area is work entirely dedicated to high throughput sequencing to identify novel candidate genes. Proposals may include, but are not limited to, the following types of research:

- identification of underlying genetic variability in neurodegenerative diseases, using cutting edge technologies, e.g., exome and genome sequencing,
- regional and temporal mapping of the transcriptome, proteome and epigenome of the human brain as it relates to aging and neurodegeneration,
- studies to explain phenotypic variability of the neurodegenerative process including the role of gender and the reasons for and the impact of the variable age of onset,
- unravelling the mechanisms by which (recently identified) risk genes contribute to the development of neurodegenerative diseases,
- understanding the interplay between genetic and environmental factors, for instance by developing new tools and approaches to identify and quantify environmental risk for neurodegenerative disease, and the effective integration of new genetic and molecular assessments e.g., within existing cohorts,
- identification of environmental and behavioural modulators of ageing and neurodegeneration in order to ultimately determine protective and resilience factors. Such modulators may include, but are not limited to, nutrition, diet, caloric intake, physical activity, anthropometric and adiposity parameters, sleep habits, social activities and social

networks or interactions, intellectual activities, educational and professional attainments, leisure activities and other lifestyle factors,
- identification of genetic factors that protect against the development of neurodegenerative diseases.

Topic 2: Longitudinal cohort approaches in neurodegenerative diseases

Current population and disease-focused human cohorts offer significant opportunities for advancing our understanding of the risks of developing neurodegenerative conditions and the influences on disease progression. Such cohorts also offer the prospect of providing platforms for prevention and intervention studies in the longer term.

The goal of this topic is to further scientific progress at a transnational level by enhancing the capabilities of existing cohort studies, or by linking related cohort studies in a synergistic way. Funding is not available to support the setting up of new cohort studies. To deliver the required impact, proposals must be multi-centred and address one or more of the following opportunities and challenges:

- bring together cohorts to achieve large increases in sample size and hence the statistical power to look at interactions,
- promote the coordination of datasets and/or bio-resources through the collection of a detailed inventory of the assessments and protocols used within studies,
- incorporate as much integrated and in-depth phenotyping as possible to link health, environmental and lifestyle data (including nutrition) to biological, clinical and behavioural outcome measures. Applicants are encouraged to encompass the use of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and brain PET imaging studies and emerging technologies,
- identify early markers (cognitive, functional and behavioural) that herald the onset and progression of neurodegeneration. This may include the analysis of data collected from a young age prospectively.
- incorporate cultural diversity which provides an additional opportunity for studies of gene-environment interaction and research on issues related to health service delivery,
- characterize suitable cohorts in combination to facilitate their use in future prevention/intervention trials
- link the cohort records of research participants to medical and social service records and wider administrative data to enrich datasets
- harmonise clinical data in existing cohorts in order to facilitate cross-centre sharing,
- develop new Information and Communication Technology platforms to promote data capture and sharing and intensive data analysis, as well as biostatistical methodologies that can maximise the value of diverse datasets.

Proposals submitted under this topic must be based primarily on current longitudinal studies in Europe and in JPND partner countries. Applicants are referred to the report of the JPND Action Group in this area (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/jpnd-alignment-actions/longitudinal-cohorts/). Successful proposals are expected to have one or more of the following characteristics:

- brings together well-characterised relevant cohort groups to harmonize, or make accessible, data to promote secondary analysis,
- adds new measurements, sample collections or data sweeps that add significant value or provide linkage to other studies,
- establishes novel assessment measures, taking advantage of new technologies, extending beyond the cognitive domain (i.e. motor and perceptual function) that can be applied to the broad spectrum of neurodegenerative diseases, or
- delivers methodological developments or enhancements to establish cohorts as intervention platforms.

Topic 3: Advanced animal or cell experimental models of neurodegenerative diseases

Supporting the creation of novel experimental models that are more predictive of disease will address a key barrier to progress in responding to the increasing burden from neurodegenerative diseases and will provide innovative tools, paving the way to new disease modifying treatments. The complexity of this research and the need for consensus in validating the platforms to be provided requires a multidisciplinary approach that encompasses the best teams in a collaborative effort at a transnational level.

Studies conducted in experimental models have provided invaluable information on the pathogenesis and pathophysiology of neurodegenerative diseases. Major advances and new insights have emerged, for example on the mechanisms governing the pathological aggregation of key proteins, the nature and processes of neuronal damage, or the role of genetic determinants in neuronal loss. Yet, the use of these experimental models appears to have elucidated only partial aspects of the various diseases, thereby preventing a real translation into new treatments, diagnostics and prevention.

A number of elements of complexity must be taken into account when modelling a human neurodegenerative disease:

- Genetics: causative mutations and common variants increasing the risk for sporadic forms of neurodegenerative diseases,
- Environment: environmental toxins, stress, social interactions, infections, nutrition,
- Aging: dysmetabolism, hormonal factors, accumulation of damaging insults, genomic instability, immune derangement.

Most of the current models only take into account one of these factors and therefore do not reproduce the complexity of the diseases. Therefore, the implementation of a next generation of reliable and well characterized animal and cell models for neurodegenerative diseases is encouraged. This may include the development of novel animal models for specific diseases to better reproduce the complexity of the clinical features of the disease in humans, the enhancement of existing animal models, e.g., by fostering a deeper characterization of the phenotypes and pathologies, and the exploitation of novel or the improvement of existing neuronal, neuronal-like cells or inducible pluripotent stem (iPS) cells, generated from different sources.

Applicants are referred to the report of the JPND Action Group in this area (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/jpnd-alignment-actions/animal-and-cell-models/). Respective work in experimental models may include, but is not limited to, the following types of research:

- investigation of phenotypic heterogeneity by analysing cell death processes, cell physiology and pathology,
- development, testing and validation of models mimicking specific symptoms that do not respond to current treatments,
- development, testing and validation of standardized phenotypic readouts,
- monitor disease onset and progression using novel or established biomarkers relevant to the human diseases and clinical settings,
- characterization of progressive neurodegeneration and protein aggregate deposition/propagation,
- thorough investigation of the relationship between risk and protective factors and genetic determinants,
- establishing high-throughput screening of innovative drugs and of factors influencing disease risk,
- implementation of innovative imaging techniques,
- gaining a deeper understanding of proteotoxicity mechanisms,
- further understanding the role of neuroinflammation,
- developing standards for harmonizing functional tests, phenotypic readouts or the use of models in different centres.

2.2 General research aims

The following neurodegenerative diseases are included in the call:

- **Alzheimer's disease and other dementias**
- **Parkinson's disease and PD-related disorders**
- **Prion diseases**
- **Motor neuron diseases**
- **Huntington's disease**
- **Spinocerebellar ataxia (SCA)**
- **Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).**

Studies primarily relevant to other diseases with a neurodegenerative component (e. g., multiple sclerosis) are not included in the call.

Proposals should have novel, ambitious aims and ideas combined with well-structured work plans and clearly defined goals deliverable within three years. The added value to ongoing activities and the impact on disease understanding or future development of treatments for neurodegenerative diseases should be explicitly stated. Appropriate access to relevant well-characterized populations or suitable biomaterial collections must be demonstrated. Pooling and synergistic usage of existing data, patient cohorts, and biomaterial or animal model collections are expected. Applicants should

also demonstrate that they have the expertise and range of skills required to conduct the study or that appropriate collaborations are in place, while a plan for managing the consortium should also be provided.

Data, tools and bioresources being generated within the research projects should be made widely available to the public domain to increase their added value. Access must be provided to other bona fide research groups. Consortia are strongly advised to define arrangements to deal with this issue within their application.

Research proposals should have plans that adequately involve patients, carers and the public (Patient and Public Involvement or PPI). Applicants are expected to make every effort to include PPI approaches, where appropriate, at each stage of the research process and/or specify plans for future involvement. Incorporation of a PPI element is mandatory for work on topic 2: Longitudinal cohort approaches in neurodegenerative diseases and strongly advised for topic 1: Genetic, epigenetic and environmental risk and protective factors of neurodegenerative diseases. Please see the JPND website (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/jpnd-alignment-actions/patient-public-involvement/) for further information on how to address PPI.

Applicants should consider the ways in which socio-economic factors, gender-related research questions or comorbidities, should be taken into account and incorporate these factors when formulating their research hypotheses, aims and work plans.

Training of young researchers and mobility (e.g., researcher exchanges for students and postdoctoral researchers with the aim of learning new techniques in other laboratories) within the consortia are encouraged, where this can be specifically justified in terms of the training opportunities provided to the individual and the needs of the field. To have an impact at European and partner country levels, it is expected that all proposals will link activities across laboratories/clinics within JPND member countries. Proposals are encouraged to import expertise from areas outside of neurodegeneration research that can provide innovation to the approach to be pursued. The case must be made for the added value to be provided by the collaboration.

3. MANAGEMENT OF THE CALL

Below we outline the role of the three bodies that are responsible for the management of the call and the evaluation of proposals. Any person being involved in one of these bodies will not be allowed to submit or participate in proposals within this call.

- The Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) is led by PT-DLR, Health Research, Germany. The JCS is responsible for the management of the call. It is a point of contact for both applicants and the partner organisations.

- The Call Steering Committee (CSC) is composed of a single representative from each funding organisation. All decisions concerning the call procedures will be taken by the CSC. Based on scientific recommendations from the Peer Review Panel (PRP) and budget

considerations it will confirm the list of consortia that will be invited to submit full proposals and also confirm final funding recommendations to the national/regional funding organisations.

- The Peer Review Panel (PRP) is composed of internationally recognised scientific experts from the respective fields of research with regard to the topics of the call. There will be one common PRP for all three topics of the call (i.e., not separate panels for each topic). The PRP is responsible for the scientific evaluation of proposals at both the pre- and full proposal stage. The PRP makes funding recommendations to the CSC. It will also rank the proposals according to the review criteria.

4. APPLICATION

4.1 Eligibility

Projects can be funded for a period of up to three years. Joint transnational research proposals may be submitted by research groups working in universities (or other higher education institutions), non-university public research institutes, hospitals and other health care settings, as well as commercial companies, in particular small and medium-size enterprises. The eligibility of the afore-mentioned institutions, together with details of eligible costs (personnel, materials, consumables, equipment, travel expenses, etc.), are subject to the individual administrative requirements of individual funding organisations and may therefore vary. Applicants will need to obtain clarification from their funding organisations where required (see contact details in Annex II). Applicants are referred to Annex I.

Each proposal must involve a minimum of three and a maximum of eight (3-8) research groups (principal investigators) applying for funding. Only transnational projects will be funded: each consortium must involve funded research groups from at least three different countries of the funding organisations participating in this call (see section 1). For reasons of transnational balance, no more than two research groups from the same country are allowed to join a consortium.

Also external collaborators (e. g., from countries that are not partners in this JPND joint transnational call or research groups from countries that are partners in this JPND joint transnational call but do not ask for funding) may participate in projects. These external collaborators must be able to secure their own funding. They must state clearly in the proposal if these funds are already secured or, if not, how they plan to obtain funding in advance of the project start. However, the majority of research groups in a consortium and the co-ordinator must be from countries of the partner organisations that conduct the call (see section 1).

Each consortium should have the critical mass to achieve ambitious scientific goals and the proposals should clearly demonstrate added value from working together. The project co-ordinator will be responsible for its internal scientific management and will represent the consortium externally.

Whilst applications will be submitted jointly by groups from different countries, individual research groups will be funded by the individual JPND funding organisation(s) for their country/region. Eligibility for funding is decided by individual partner organisations (see Annex II) and the details of what may or may not be funded is subject to the regulations of the corresponding funding organisations (see Annex I).

Inclusion of a partner in a proposal who is not eligible for funding according to the specific regulations of their respective funding agency may result in the rejection of the entire proposal without further review. Please also be aware that your funding organisation may not necessarily participate in all areas of the call. In addition, for applicants from some countries/regions, it might be necessary to submit advanced information before the submission deadline directly to the respective funding organisation. Information on specific regulations is provided in Annex I. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective funding organisation (Annex II) to confirm eligibility before the submission deadline.

4.2 Submission of proposals

There will be a two-stage procedure for applications: pre-proposals and full proposals. The opportunity for revision of the application between these stages will be provided within the parameters indicated below.

For both pre-proposals and full proposals, one joint proposal document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational consortium, and submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat by the co-ordinator.

Pre-proposals must be submitted by the co-ordinator in electronic format **no later than 23:59h C.E.T. on March 10, 2015** via the **electronic submission system** (https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/JPco-fuND). No other means of submission will be accepted. The pre-proposal template is available through the JPND website (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/jpcofund/call-for-proposals/). There is no need to send copies to individual funding organisations as these agencies will receive copies of this pre-proposal from the JCS.

A **revision** of the overall application is allowed after the pre-proposal stage. However, full proposals will be accepted only from those applicants explicitly invited by the JCS to submit them. Please note that the information given in the pre-proposal is binding (i.e., changes to the overall plans may not be made). Nevertheless, the following modifications are allowed when preparing a full proposal:

- Changing the consortium is normally restricted to one research group applying for funding (i.e., only one research group may be added, removed or exchanged) and in the following cases:

- where a research group from the pre-proposal has been declared non-eligible by the respective funding agency
- where the respective modification is based on the feedback from the pre-proposal evaluation by the PRP.

In addition and only on the basis of a scientific justification, applicants are encouraged to include partners from underrepresented European countries (for example Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Turkey)[1].

- Research groups not applying for funding (external collaborators) may be included, excluded or changed.
- Changes to the work plan should either be based on a recommendation from the pre-proposal evaluation or they must be well justified in the full proposal.
- Changes to the budget of individual research groups are allowed. However, this requires approval by the respective funding organisation.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that any changes are in line with the eligibility criteria of the call (see section 4.1). Changes that exceed the conditions for revision (see above) or result in full proposals not meeting the eligibility criteria may be rejected without further review. Therefore, if there is any doubt, applicants are strongly advised to consult in advance of submission with the JCS and the funding organizations involved in the proposal.

Full proposals must be submitted by the co-ordinator in electronic format **no later than 23:59h C.E.T. on June 30, 2015**. An application template will be sent to the co-ordinator by the JCS at the same time as the invitation to submit a full proposal. Again, adhering to this template is a requirement. Any changes introduced in the revision phase (see above) should be described and justified in the full proposal for which a separate section will be provided. There is no need to send copies to individual funding organisations as these agencies will receive copies of this full proposal from the JCS.

4.3 Further information

The forms that have to be used for submission of proposals as well as further information on how to submit proposals electronically will be made available through the JPND website (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/jpcofund/call-for-proposals/). In case of any questions concerning the forms or proposal submission, please contact the JCS (see first page for contact details).

5. EVALUATION AND DECISION

5.1 Evaluation criteria and scoring

[1] The countries that are considered to be underrepresented will be decided by the CSC on the basis of whether 50% or more of their available budget will be unspent according to the list of full proposals invited.

The PRP will carry out the evaluation of pre-proposals and full proposals. There will be one common PRP for the proposal evaluation of all three topics of the call. The following evaluation criteria will be applied:

- **Excellence**
  including the level of innovation and originality of the proposal along with novel methodology, international competitiveness of participating research groups in the field(s) of the proposal (expertise relevant for the field, expertise of the research groups) and their appropriate mix; quality of collaborative interaction between the groups for the proposed work, level of training/knowledge exchange between research organisations, and added value, on both scientific and transnational levels, of the research consortium.

- **Impact**
  deliverable outcomes in the short, medium and long term and likely impact - potential of the expected results for future clinical and other health relevant applications

- **Quality and efficiency of the implementation**
  including feasibility of the project (adequacy of project work plan, time schedule, availability of well characterised patient groups or samples, quality and linkages of data within and between countries, budgetary and other resources).

5.2 Evaluation and decision on pre-proposals

5.2.1 Eligibility and formal check

The JCS will check the pre-proposals and full proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal conditions (date of submission; number of participating countries and groups; inclusion of all necessary information in English; adherence to the proposal template). In parallel, the JCS will forward the pre-proposals to the national/regional funding organisations for a check of compliance with their respective funding regulations. Pre-proposals not meeting the formal or eligibility criteria will be rejected. Pre-proposals passing these checks will be forwarded to the PRP for evaluation.

5.2.2 Peer Review of pre-proposals

Pre-proposals passing the formal and eligibility check will be evaluated by the PRP. At least three PRP members will be asked to evaluate and score a pre-proposal on a written basis.

5.2.3 Decision on pre-proposals

The JCS will set up a ranking list of all pre-proposals according to the scores given by the PRP. Based on the ranking list and additional advice from a subset of the PRP, the CSC will decide how many pre-proposals will be invited for the full proposal stage. The co-ordinators of the pre-proposals will be informed by the JCS about the outcome of the pre-proposal evaluation and decision by end of May 2015. They will receive the written evaluations in an anonymous way. Co-ordinators of the top pre-proposals will be invited by the JCS to submit a full proposal no later than June 30, 2015. They will receive all relevant information for the full proposal stage from the JCS.

5.3 Evaluation and decision on full proposals

5.3.1 Eligibility and formal check

Full proposals will be checked as described in section 5.2.1. Full proposals passing these checks will be forwarded to the PRP for evaluation.

5.3.2 Peer Review of full proposals

Full proposals passing the formal and eligibility checks will be evaluated by the PRP. Full proposals will be evaluated by a written evaluation and by a physical panel meeting. Written evaluations will be performed as described in section 5.2.2 and distributed to the PRP members attending the panel meeting. At the panel meeting, a subset of PRP members will meet physically to discuss and evaluate all full proposals in detail. As a result of the meeting, the PRP will make funding recommendations for each full proposal and agree a rank order. This ranking list will be based on the assessment according to the evaluation criteria and there will be one final ranking list for all topics.

5.3.3 Decision on full proposals

Based on the ranking list established by the PRP and on available funding, the CSC will propose a package of awards for a final decision by the national/regional funding organisations, subject to budgetary considerations. The joint selection list of projects to be funded will be submitted to the EC together with other relevant information. The co-ordinators of the full proposals will be informed by the JCS about the outcome of the full proposal evaluation and decision by the end of October 2015. Co-ordinators will receive the written evaluations and a written summary of the panel discussion made anonymously.

6. FUNDING REGULATIONS; RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Projects can be funded for a period of up to three years with starting dates from the end of 2015 onwards. Awards will be made on a national basis by the relevant funding organisations and administered according to their terms and conditions, taking into account all other applicable regulations and legal frameworks, including the legislation of the European Commission.

A project consortium agreement signed by all project partners in each project consortium is a requirement for the award. The project consortium agreement will specify as a minimum: decision making, monitoring, reporting, intellectual property rights (IPR) management and sharing of data and resources, as appropriate. Administrative and funding arrangements will be stated in the project consortium agreement to be a bilateral responsibility between each project partner and the relevant funding organisation.

Each project must have a project co-ordinator, who represents the consortium externally, acts as first point of contact, and is responsible for its internal management towards JPND (such as monitoring, reporting, intellectual property rights (IPR) issues and sharing of data and resources). Within a joint proposal/project, each group leader will be the contact person for the relevant national/regional funding organisation.

The project co-ordinator will be required to submit a brief annual scientific progress report on the joint project, on behalf of the project consortium, to the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) in January of each year. A final scientific progress report on the joint project must be submitted by the co-ordinator, on behalf of the project consortium, to the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) within 3 months of the end of the project. It may also be necessary for group leaders to submit reports individually to their funding organisation if required to do so by national/regional regulations.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational JPND projects include a proper acknowledgement of JPND and the respective funding partner organisations. For this purpose, a JPND dissemination strategy has been agreed by all JPND member states. Adhering to the JPND dissemination guidelines, which can be downloaded from the JPND website (http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/news-events/dissemination-communication), is mandatory for researchers funded under the umbrella of JPND.

6. Annex

Annex I – Participation in the call topics

The following table shows the earmarked budget and the call participation level for each funding organisation. Specific and additional regulations (as appropriate) are linked. Following these regulations is mandatory.

Please note that you can only apply for a specific topic if it is supported by your respective funding organisation. If there is more than one JPND funding organisation in your country, please make sure that you select the appropriate organisation.

Country (organisation)	Budget* (Mio	Risk factors	Cohort studies	Disease models	Specific regulations
Austria (BMWFW)	0,6	x	x	x	Click here
Belgium (F.R.S.)	0,2	x		x	Click here
Belgium (FWO)	0,2	x	x	x	Click here
Canada (CIHR)	0,66	x	x		Click here
Denmark (Innofond)	1,0	x	x	x	Click here
Finland (AKA)	1,0	x	x	x	Click here
France (ANR & CNSA)	2,5	x	x	x	Click here
Germany (BMBF)	6,0	x	x	x	Click here
Israel (CSO-MOH)	0,2	x	x	x	Click here
Italy (MIUR)	1,5	x		x	Click here
Italy (MOH-IT)	1,5	x	x	x	Click here
Luxembourg (FNR)	0,5	x	x	x	Click here
Netherlands (ZonMw)	3,0	x	x	x	Click here
Norway (RCN)	1,5	x	x	x	Click here
Poland (NCBR)	0,4		x	x	Click here
Portugal (FCT)	0,9	x	x	x	Click here
Romania (ANCS)	0,3	x	x	x	Click here
Slovakia (MINEDU)	1,0	x		x	Click here
Spain (ISCIII)	0,5	x	x	x	Click here
Sweden (SRC)	3,55	x	x	x	Click here
Turkey (TUBITAK)	0,8	x	x	x	Click here
UK (MRC)	2,5	x	x		Click here

* Note that national budgets may be increased by top-up funding from the European Commission as part of the ERA-Net Co-fund mechanism, depending upon which proposals are selected for funding. However, the exact amount of co-funding cannot be predicted.

Annex II – National representatives with contact details

Please note that country specific requirements might apply to this call. For further information please contact your national representative:

Country	Contact officer	Funding organisation, contact details
Austria	Dr. Oliver Mayer	Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFW) oliver.mayer@bmwfw.gv.at +43 (0)1 53120 7145
Belgium	Dr. Olivier Boehme Arnaud Goolaerts	Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) eranet@fwo.be +32 (0)2 550 15 45 The Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.-FNRS) arnaud.goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be +32 2 504 93 28
Canada	Melody Sajedi	Team Lead, Program Delivery Canadian Institutes of Health Research Telephone: 613-960-9475 Email: melody.sajedi@cihr-irsc.gc.ca
Denmark	Dr. Peder Fode	Innovation Fund Denmark peder.fode@innofond.dk +45 6190 5036
Finland	Mr. Antti Hautaniemi Dr. Sirpa Nuotio	Academy of Finland (AKA) antti.hautaniemi@aka.fi +358 295 33 5006 sirpa.nuotio@aka.fi +358 295 33 5082
France	Dr. Natalia Martin Dr. Serena Battaglia	French National Research Agency (ANR) natalia.martin@agencerecherche.fr + 33 173 54 81 33 serena.battaglia@agencerecherche.fr +33 178 09 80 14
Germany	Dr. Thomas Becker Dr. Constanze Hahn	Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), represented by Project Management Agency (PT-DLR) thomas.becker@dlr.de +49 228 3821 1686 constanze.hahn@dlr.de +49 228 3821 1865
Israel	Dr. Ahmi Ben-Yehudah	Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH) ahmi.by@MOH.HEALTH.GOV.IL +972-2-5082613
Italy	Dr. Gaetano Guglielmi Dr. Aldo Covello	Ministry of Health (MOH) Dr. Gaetano Guglielmi g.guglielmi@sanita.it +39 0659942186 Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) Dr. Aldo Covello aldo.covello@miur.it

Luxembourg	Dr. Frank Glod	National Research Fund (FNR) +352 261925 33 frank.glod@fnr.lu www.fnr.lu
Netherlands	Ms. Marjolein Scholten	The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) Scholten@zonmw.nl +31 70 349 53 35
Norway	Dr. Alexandra Bjørk- Skaflestad	Research Council of Norway (RCN) alb@forskningsradet.no +47 22037224
Poland	Dr. Katarzyna Moczulska	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) katarzyna.moczulska@ncbr.gov.pl +48 515 061 519
Portugal	Dr. Ricardo Pereira	Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) ricardo.pereira@fct.pt +351 21 392 44 79
Romania	Ioana Ispas	Ministry of National Education data ioana.ispas@ancs.ro
Slovakia	Ms. Lubica Pitlova	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (MESR) lubica.pitlova@minedu.sk +4212 59374741
Spain	Ms. Carme de Andrés	National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII) era@isciii.es +34 91 822 25 45
Sweden	Dr. Patriq Fagerstedt	Swedish Research Council (SRC) Patriq.Fagerstedt@vr.se +46 (0)8 546 44 246
Turkey	Ms. A. Ozge Gozay	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) ozge.gozay@tubitak.gov.tr +90 312 468 5300 – 1007 (ext.)
United Kingdom	Dr. Catherine Moody	Medical Research Council (MRC) jpndcofund2015@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk +44 20 7395 2231